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rare teratological specimen, and it will be preserved in the herbarium of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

Germantown, Pa.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

Parmelia furfuracea used in Embalming.—In the note on "Mummy Garlands," in the November number of the BULLETIN, mention is made of the identification of *Parmelia* (*Evernia*) *furfuracea* among the plants of the royal coffins. But this lichen was found in an Egyptian coffin many years ago, and identified by Prof. Tuckerman. I quote from an article on the Flora of the White Mountains by J. W. Dawson in the *Canadian Naturalist* for April, 1862, page 88:

"Not long ago we unrolled in Montreal an Egyptian mummy preserved in the oldest style of embalming, and found that, to preserve the odor of the spices, quantities of a lichen (*Evernia furfuracea*) had been wrapped around the body, and had no doubt been imported into Egypt from Lebanon or the hills of Macedonia for such uses. Yet the specimens from this old mummy were at once recognized by Professor Tuckerman as identical with this species as it occurs in the White Hills and on Katahdin, in Maine."

New Bedford, Mass.

H. W.

The Lignified Snake.—I have seen the original of the famous "snake lignification" from Brazil, and I possess an electrotype from it, given to our Museum by His Excellency the Brazilian Minister. I am convinced there is no snake in the case. I cannot take the time at this moment to give the two credible explanations which suggest themselves. But I shall be much surprised if the Botanical Society of France is found to endorse the account of M. Olivier in *La Nature*.

Cambridge, Mass.

A. GRAY.

Ilex with Yellow Berries.—Prof. John Robinson sends me from Essex Co., Mass., a sprig of *Ilex verticillata* with bright yellow berries.

Providence, R. I.

W. W. BAILEY.

The Tuckahoe.—The articles in the BULLETIN on tuckahoe, the "Indian bread," have induced me to look up a specimen which I obtained at Asbury Park, some seven or eight years ago. It was got when cutting down some trees and removing the roots. The specimen was found, I should think, about eighteen inches from the surface, in yellow ferruginous sand, and encircling the root of an oak, the root being five-eighths of an inch thick. The specimen is six inches long, and two inches at its thickest part. It has a brown epidermis, and looks wonderfully like a baked sweet potato. The interior flesh or pectine presents exactly the appearance of white flour after being mixed with water and thoroughly dried. It is very hard. I published in the local paper at the time a description under the title: "Tuckahoe, or Indian-bread."

A fact not published is this: In 1862, when taking out the stump of a willow-oak (*Quercus phellos*) from my garden at Keyport, N. J., I found among the roots quite a quantity of tuckahoe; several speci-